

## *The Benefits. . .*

Increased Physical Skills – Developing body control and coordination; great exercise.

Increased Mental Skills – Listening, following directions, increasing attention span, and memorizing steps.

A Healthy Competitive Spirit – Increasing the desire to do well to the best of his/her ability.

Lasting Friendships – Not only with classmates, but also later through performing and competing, children meet others from all parts of the state, region, and country.

Promoting Irish Culture – A revival of Irish identity and tradition began in the 1960's. While a young dancer may not comprehend this particular benefit while training, this revival continues!

## *Contact Information. . .*

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*Central Indiana  
Irish Dancers*

a non-profit parent organization  
of the Richens/Timm Academy of  
Irish Dance of Kokomo, Indiana



*Richens/Timm  
Academy of  
Irish Dance*

## *The Academy...*



The Richen/Timm Academy of Irish Dance is one of the most recognizable and respected names in the World of Irish Dance. Known for its outstanding success in the competitive arena, the Academy has produced an average of ten World Qualifiers each year over the past decade. The curriculum of the Academy focuses on all aspects of Irish dance. From solo to team, from children to adult, from social to competitive. Kokomo is the Academy's newest location, established in 2003, by a former student of the Academy, Elizabeth Donahue.

The Richens/Timm Academy of Irish Dance was founded by Ann Richens, a certified Irish dance teacher, adjudicator and past-president of the Irish Dance Teachers of North America. Ms. Richens' student, John Timm, the 1993 Senior Men's World Champion, became her business partner in 1994. Recognized world-wide as an excellent school, some of the best Richens/Timm Academy students have distinguished themselves in regional, national and international competition. The Academy operates studios in Indianapolis and Kokomo, Indiana, and Dayton and Columbus, Ohio.



## *The Instructor...*



Elizabeth (Liz) Donahue started dancing at the age of six and has been dancing since 1988. She achieved the level of Champion Irish Dancer by winning six Preliminary Championships at the age of 15. She qualified for and competed in the World Championships in Ireland five straight times. She achieved a ranking of fourth in the Midwest and was ranked eleventh in North America.

Liz is a 2003 graduate of DePauw University. She spent the spring semester of her junior year studying Irish history and archaeology at the National University of Ireland in Galway, Ireland. She is the first full time resident Irish dance teacher in the state of Indiana.

Liz Donahue has been John Timm's teaching assistant since 1999 and teaches Irish dance as her full time occupation. One of her private lesson students qualified for and competed in the 2003 World Championships. In May, 2003, Liz was awarded an Individual Artist Grant by the Indiana Arts Commission and the National Endowment for the Arts to support her study for teaching certification through the Irish Dance Commission in Ireland.



*Elizabeth (Liz) Donahue (right) & friend.  
Her First Feis*